

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The drawing sheet attached in connection with the above-identified application containing the Figure of the application is being presented as a new formal drawing sheet to be substituted for the previously submitted drawing sheet. The drawing Figure has been amended. Appended to this amendment is an annotated copy of the previous drawing sheet which has been marked to show changes presented in the replacement sheet of the drawing.

The specific changes which have been made to the Figure were to add reference numerals 7 and 8 for examples of a pressure sensor and a temperature sensor, respectively.

### **REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

In the specification, paragraphs have been amended on pages 1, 3, and 4. Applicant notes that some amendments on page 4 of the specification have been indicated in double brackets so that the language deleted may be more easily viewed.

Claims 1-5 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

New claims 11-20 have been added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier. Applicant respectfully submits that the disclosure of Applicant's application provides support for the amendments to the claims. For example, at least the original claims, the Figure of the application, and page 2, line 14, to page 4, line 14, of Applicant's specification provide support for the amendments to the claims.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 6-20 are now pending in this application. Claims 6-10 have been withdrawn from consideration.

### **Objection to the Drawings**

The drawings are objected to for containing informalities. In particular, the drawings are objected to for having poor line quality and for not showing the features of claim 5. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the drawings and claims render these objections moot.

In regard to new claim 15, Applicant respectfully submits that the drawing shows an example of an expansion valve that can be regulated by a pulse-width modulated signal and that the pulse-width modulated signal can be provided by the circuit shown in the example of the drawing.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of these objections is respectfully requested.

**Objections to the Specification**

The specification is objected to for containing informalities. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the specification render these objections moot.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of these objections is respectfully requested.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112**

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 1-5 have been canceled. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,323,844 to Sumitani *et al.* (hereafter “Sumitani”). Claims 1-5 have been canceled.

In regard to new claims 11-20, Applicant respectfully submits that Sumitani does not disclose or suggest all of the features of claim 11, which claims 12-20 depend from.

Sumitani discloses an air conditioner in which, when the air conditioner is in a heating mode, refrigerant flows from a compressor 2 through a four-way valve 3, to an inner heat-exchanger 7 where heat is generated to warm a space where the inner heat-exchanger 7 is disposed, through an expansion valve 5 to a second external heat-exchanger 13 where the refrigerant is provided heat from a heater 14 and is vaporized, and back to the compressor 2. See Sumitani at col. 4, lines 1-25, and Figures 2 and 3.

However, Sumitani does not disclose or suggest a pressure sensor that measures a pressure downstream of the compressor, as recited in claim 11. Sumitani is silent in regard to this feature. Therefore, Sumitani does not disclose or suggest all of the features of new claims 11-20. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**New Claims**

New claims 11-20 have been added. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 11-20 are drawn to the elected invention and are allowable over Sumitani for at least the reasons discussed above.

**Conclusion**

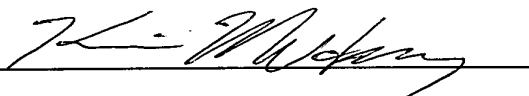
Applicant submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing or a credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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